condition is expected to commence from September, 2007 and would be completed by February, 2008.

(c) Till the new Hawk aircraft are available for the Indian Air Force, as an interim measure, 75 IAF pilots will be trained in U.K. in terms of the contract with M/s BAe Systems Limited, UK.

Explosion at Amassa godown of Air Force in M.P.

†1479. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major explosion has taken place at Amassa based godown of Air Force in M.P. recently;

(b) whether there is a possibility of the involvement of terrorists in the said explosion; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the said explosion alongwith the estimated loss incurred due to the same?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) A major explosion took place on 10th July, 2004 at Amla Depot. A Court of Inquiry is in progress to ascertain the reasons of explosion and to assess the exact loss incurred on this account.

Policy for Defence Procurements

1480. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that henceforth defence procurement policy and programmes can be finalised only after the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)'s and CAG's nod;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has finalised the details; and

(c) whether this method will not hamper the smooth procurement process in Defence deals?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.